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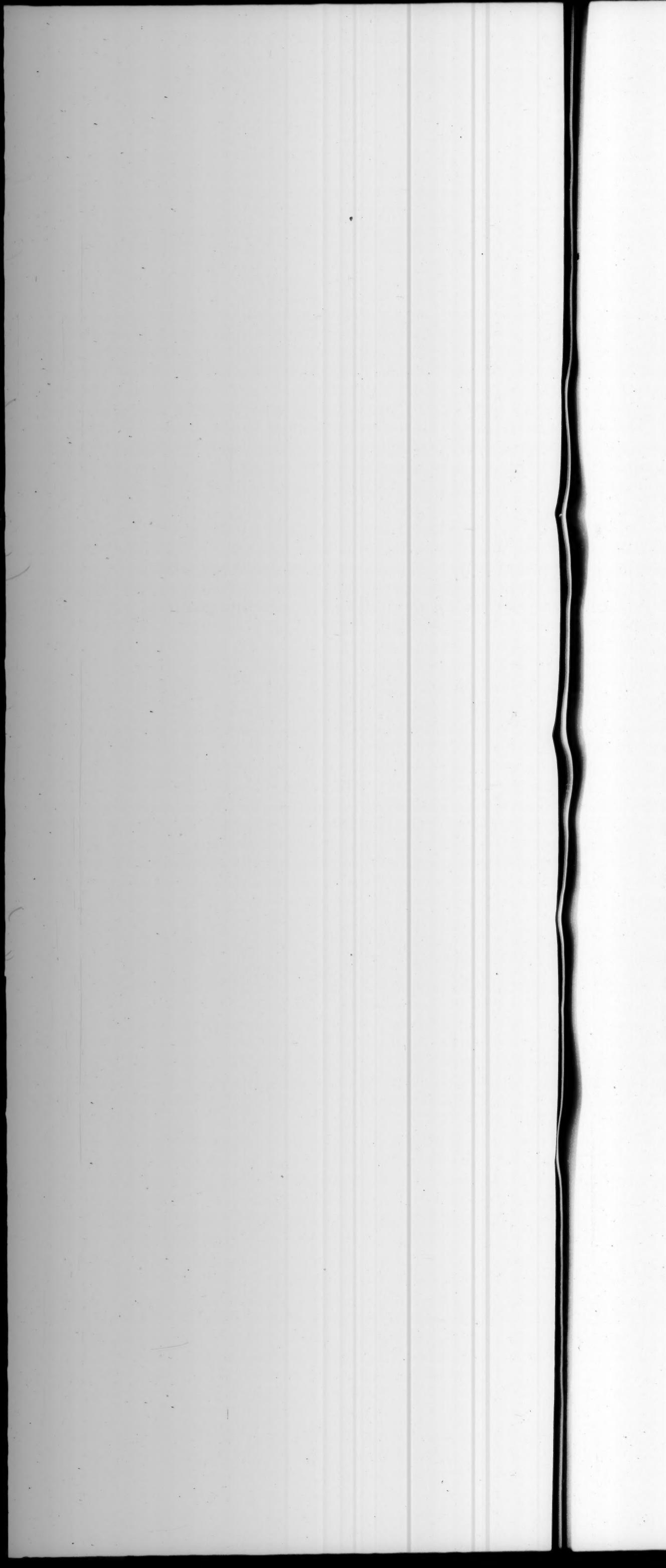
¶ By the King.

¶ A Proclamation for the Prices of Victuals
within the Verge of the Court.



Hereas VVcc vnderstand by the Records of Our Counting-house, that Our most Noble Progenitors & Predecessors, Kings and Queens of this Realm, have alwaies had an especiall care to restraine the excesse Rates and Prices of Victuals, Horse-meate, and Lodging; And that notwithstanding the extraordinary care therof, taken by Our mest deare and Royall Father, King JAMES of blessed memory, yet there were within the Verge of the Court, alwayes some, who out of their greedy desire of unlawfull gaine, would never bee kept within any bounds of equall and reasonable Prices, but, by the accessse of the Court, and the increase of the concourse of people thither, would take an occasion to enhance their Rates, and exact unconscionable extreme Prices at their owne willes and pleasures:

Wee, taking the same into Our princely consideration, and being desirous that all Our louing Subjects in generall, should in all places of their traualle bee well vsed, and especially within the Verge of Our Court, where Our Nobility, Servaunts & Traine, dayly attending vpon Our Person, are lodged & placed by Our Harbingers, & other Suitors haue dayly occasion to resort, haue giuen order to the Clerke of the Market of Our Household, within the Verge of Our Court, soorthwith to cause a Rate and Valuation to bee set by indifferent Jurors, of all Corne, Victuals, Lodgings, Horse-meate, and other necessaries of that kinde, according to the reasonable and equall Rates and Prices of the Market, and to renewe such Rates and Valuations from time to time, as occasion shall require, by Oath and Presentments of Jurors; And haue commanded, that Schedules of the Inquisitions and Presentments of the Juries, to bee thereupon taken, shall not onely be certifiied by Our sayd Clerke of the Market, or his Deputie, into Our Counting-house, to remaine there with the Officers of Our Household; But shall also be fixed, and set vpon the Gates of Our Court, and other places within the Verge, aswell within Liberties as



Without, whereby publique notice may bee taken of the same; Our will and pleasure being, and we do by this Our Proclamation straitly charge & command, That no Baker, Brewer, Inholder, Butcher, or other Victualler, or any other person or persons, of what estate or degree soever hee or they be, doe in any wise demand, aske, or receive more for Corne, Victuals, Horsemeate, Lodging, or any other thing to bee specified in the sayd Schedule or Inquisition, then according to the Rates and Prices therein mentioned, vpon paine of imprisonment, and such further punishment, as by the Lawes of this Realme, or by Our Prerogative Royall, may bee inflicted vpon them, as oppressors of the Common-Wealth, and contemners of this Our Royall Commandement.

And moreover, wee doe straitly charge and command, That no manner of person or persons, now living, or which shall hereafter use, to serue any Citie, Borough, Towne, or other place, in, or neere the place of Our residence or abode, or elsewhere within the Verge of Our Court, either within Liberties or without, of, or with any kinde of Corne or Victuals, or other necessaries, either vpon the Market dayes, or at any other time, shall be any thing the more remisse, or slacke, for making of prouision for the same, then they or any of them heretofore haue been, nor shall use any colour of craft, to deceiue the buyers of, or in the said prouisions, or to withdraw, conceale, hide, or lay aside their Corne, Victuals, Horsemeate, or other necessaries, to lessen or diminishe the Market, whereby Our Traine, or attendants of Our Court, within any Citie, Borough, or Towne within the Verge, or the Inhabitants of the same, or any other Our louing Subjects therunto resorting, shall not be as well, and as plenteously furnished in euery respect, as the Markets were before, in defrauding of this Our Ordinance.

And furthermore, we straitly charge, and expesly command, aswell all Our Officers of Our Greenecloth, and Our Clerke of the Market, and his Deputie or Deputies, as also all Mayors, Bayliffes, Sheriffes, Constables, and all other Our Officers and Ministers of all and every the Cities, Boroughs, Townes, Hundreds, and other places within the Verge of Our Court, aswel within Liberties as without, That they and every of them from time to time, when, and as often as any complaint shall bee made vnto them by any partie or parties, justly grieved or wronged, contrary to the tenour of this Our Proclamation, within their authoritie respectively, foorthwith to endeauour themselves to see speedy reformation thereof and due punishment of the person or persons that shall offend therein, according to the severest Justice of Our Lawes in that behalfe.

Given at Our Court at White-Hall, the fourteenth day of May, in the first yeere of Our Reigne of Great Britaine, France and Ireland.

God saue the King.

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to the Kings most Excellent Maiestie.

M.DC.XXV.